

Re: Application Number: 10/748,857

Filing date : 12-30-2003

Applicant: CORNFIELD, Randall

Art Unit: 3676

Confirmation Number: 6240

Examiner: WILLIAMS, MARK A

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF CHRISTOPHER HRUSHOWY UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Sir:

I, Christopher Hrushowy, declare as follows:

1. I am President of a Canadian based housewares product development company, CMH Trading Inc., specializing in cookware and kitchen products. I have been in the industry all of my professional career, starting as a salesman for WearEver Industries in the 1960's and have held several managerial positions including becoming president of Paderno Inc., a leading cookware manufacturer, before establishing my own enterprise. I am a cookware designer, establishing manufacturing specifications, resolving engineering issues and work on cookware development projects all the way up to the packaging. I have developed cookware and household products for many major retailers throughout North America.



2. In my expert opinion the perfect handle for cookware needs to allow for a good and comfortable grip, while allowing the user to manipulate the cookware in a way that is safe and such that, when food is added to a vessel thus adding weight, the handle performs equally as well.

In addition, the ideal handle should allow for manipulation in a way that the user can perform precise actions such as dribbling sauce onto food, transferring the contents of a cooking vessel to another vessel and other similar tasks in a way that the user does not have to change their grip or positioning on the handle. In closing the handle to be considered the ideal handle must be constructed in a way that there is a clear and obvious way to hold the handle, that this is comfortable to use and manipulate for all purposes and that it allows for the variance in different users hand sizes so as to allow all user the same functionality. To my knowledge, no handle currently on the market satisfies all these criteria.

3. The claims of the above-referenced patent application are directed to an implement handle including a generally elongated and substantially rectilinear body defining a body longitudinal axis, a body forward end for connection to an implement head and a longitudinally opposed body rearward end, the body also defining a body top surface and a substantially opposed body bottom surface. The body defines an encircalable section located intermediate the body forward and rearward ends, the encircalable section being configured and sized so as to be graspable between at least a portion of a palm and at least a portion of at least either one of a middle, ring or small fingers at least partially encircling the encircalable section. The body top surface is provided with an identifiable thumb rest area located intermediate the encircalable section and the body forward end for contacting at least a portion of the distal pulp of the thumb, the thumb rest area defining a rest area forward most location. The body bottom surface is provided with a substantially concave indentation defining an indentation surface

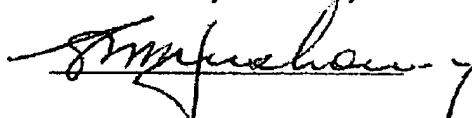
3

located intermediate the encircalable section and the body forward end for contacting at least a portion of one of the finger lateral surfaces of the index finger with the latter in substantially perpendicular relationship with the body longitudinal axis. The indentation surface has a substantially arcuate cross-sectional configuration defining an indentation first end located substantially adjacent the encircalable section and an indentation second end located substantially adjacent to the body forward end, the indentation second end defining an indentation end point, the body defining a cross-sectional first reference plane extending in a substantially perpendicular relationship with the body longitudinal axis and intercepting the indentation end point, the indentation surface being configured and sized so that at least a section of the indentation surface is positioned forwardly relative to the first reference plane. The encircalable section has a substantially fusiform configuration tapering towards the body rearward end and tapering forwardly towards both the thumb rest area and the indentation.

4. In my opinion, the combination of the claimed features produces a unique handle that meets the requirements stated at item 2. of this document, therefore meeting the long-felt need exposed hereinabove.

I, the undersigned, declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Executed this 9th day of January 2008.


Christopher Hrushowy

3